

# The Enlightenment



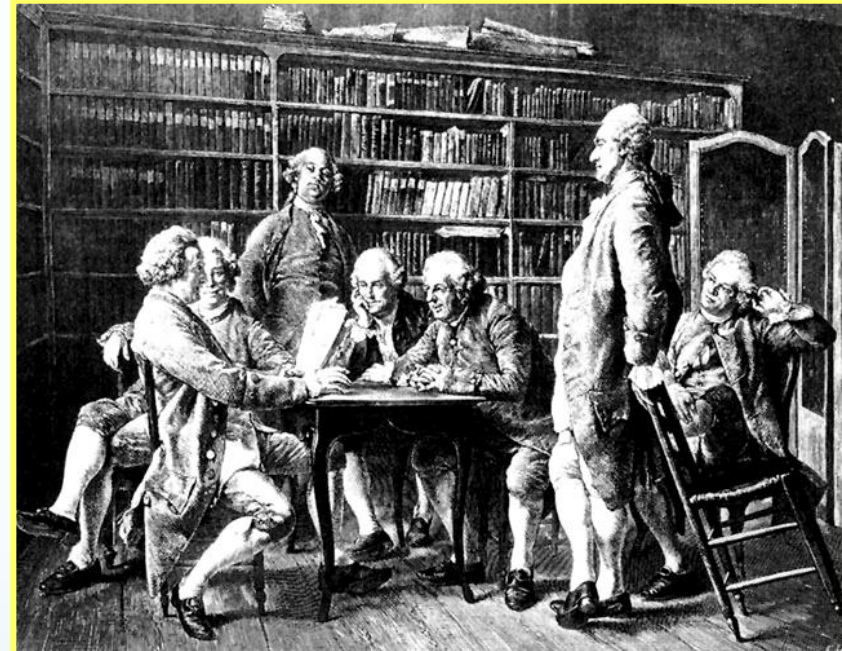
**EQ:** Describe famous philosophers of the Enlightenment, their beliefs, and the effect the Enlightenment movement had on various rulers and countries.

# What is the Enlightenment?

- Change in outlook/thinking of educated Europeans in 1600s
- Wanted to examine human life using reason and rational thought
- Reason = the Ability to think logically about something
- Called Enlightenment because they wanted to enlighten, or shine a light on, new ways of thinking

Church = Monarch

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# \* CAUSES of the Enlightenment

- ① Scientific Revolution – observation and reason were encouraged in learning about our physical world
- Renaissance – Humanists from this period questioned accepted beliefs
- Reformation – Protestants rebelled against Catholic Church, putting individual conscience ahead of authority of the Church
- \* Classical Culture – Trusting in reason and having a say in one's government goes back to the teachings of the Greeks and Romans
- Christian Ideas – Rational understanding of faith based on the Bible encouraged by Protestants

# Change in Beliefs

- Roots of Enlightenment changed way people thought about lives and world

*Reason > Authority*

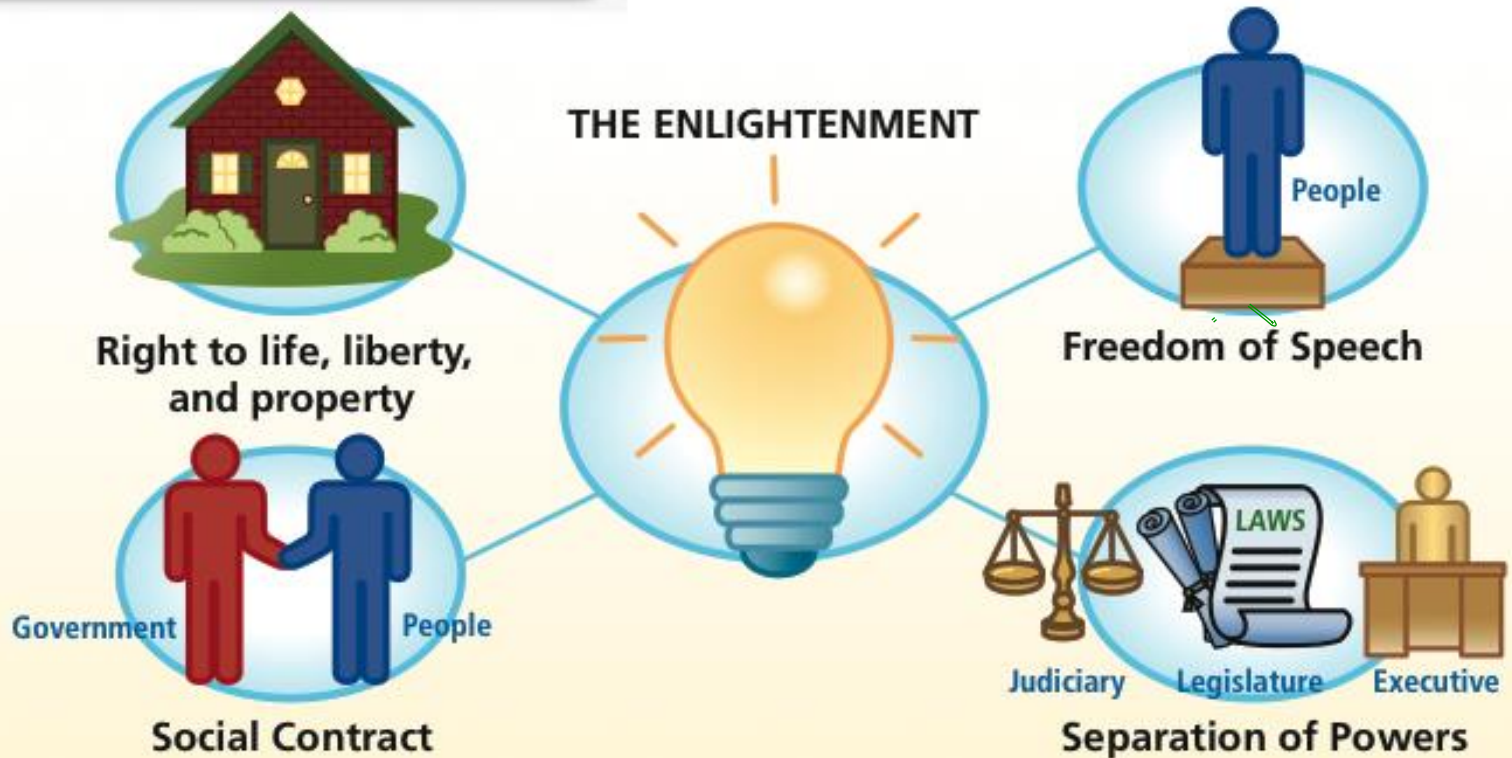
- Reason prized over authority, ppl questioned everything including basis of religion, morality, and government

- \*Enlightenment thinkers effected later societies by addressing both social and political issues



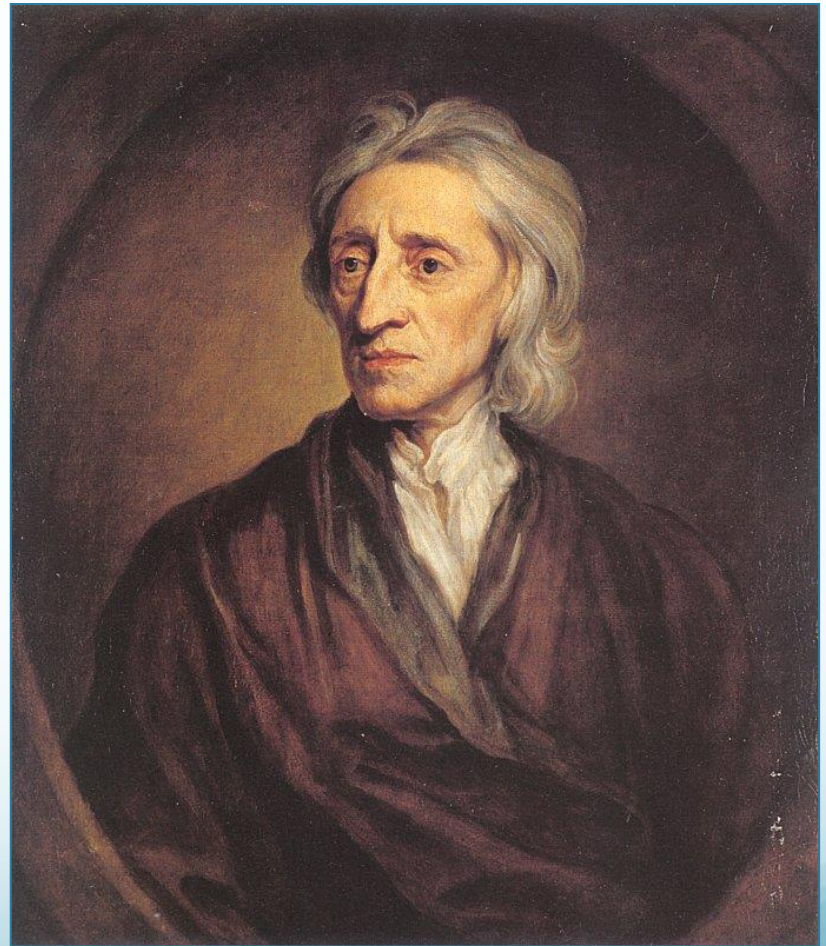
# The Enlightenment

## Ideas of Enlightenment



# John Locke

- Born in England in 1632
- Published several books about government
- Believed in rights for the individual
- John Locke's ideas about government and personal rights greatly influenced the Declaration of Independence



# Beliefs of John Locke

- Disagreed with dictatorships
- Disagreed with Divine Rights of Kings (ruling by authority of God)
- Believed unjust rulers could be forced from power
- Believed rulers received right to govern from the people

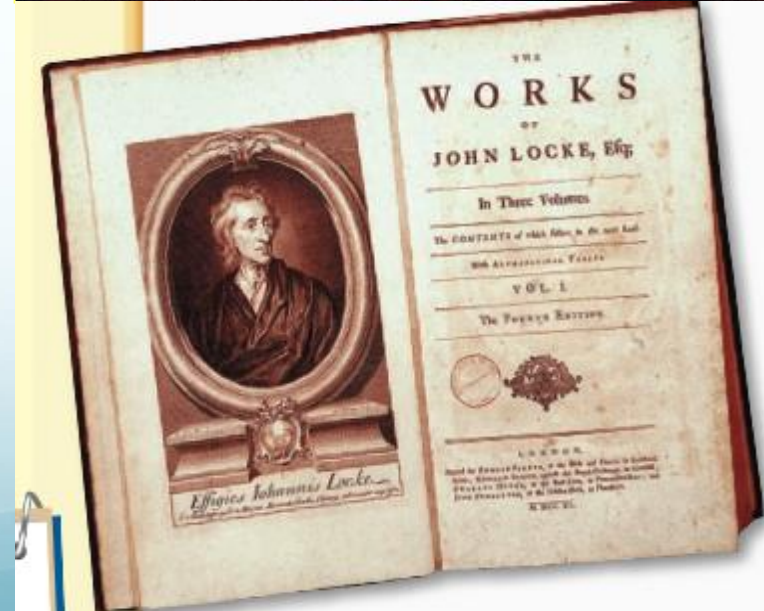
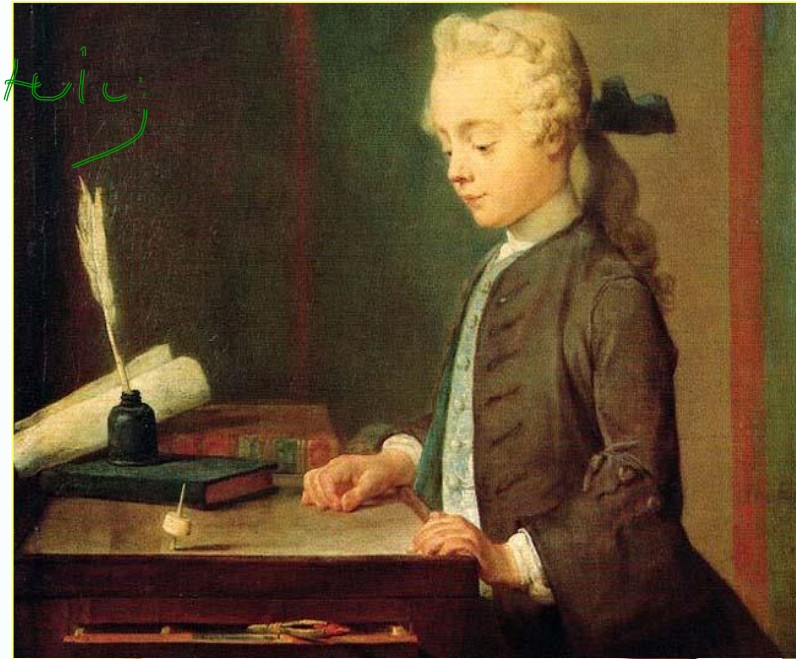


# Most Famous Belief of John Locke

*Absolute Power Corrupts*

*Absolutism*

- Believed in idea of Natural Rights
  - Rights that belong to people, “by nature,” that is, simply because they are human being
- Natural rights of people: life, liberty, and property
- Thomas Jefferson borrowed John Locke’s Ideas about natural rights when writing the Declaration of Independence

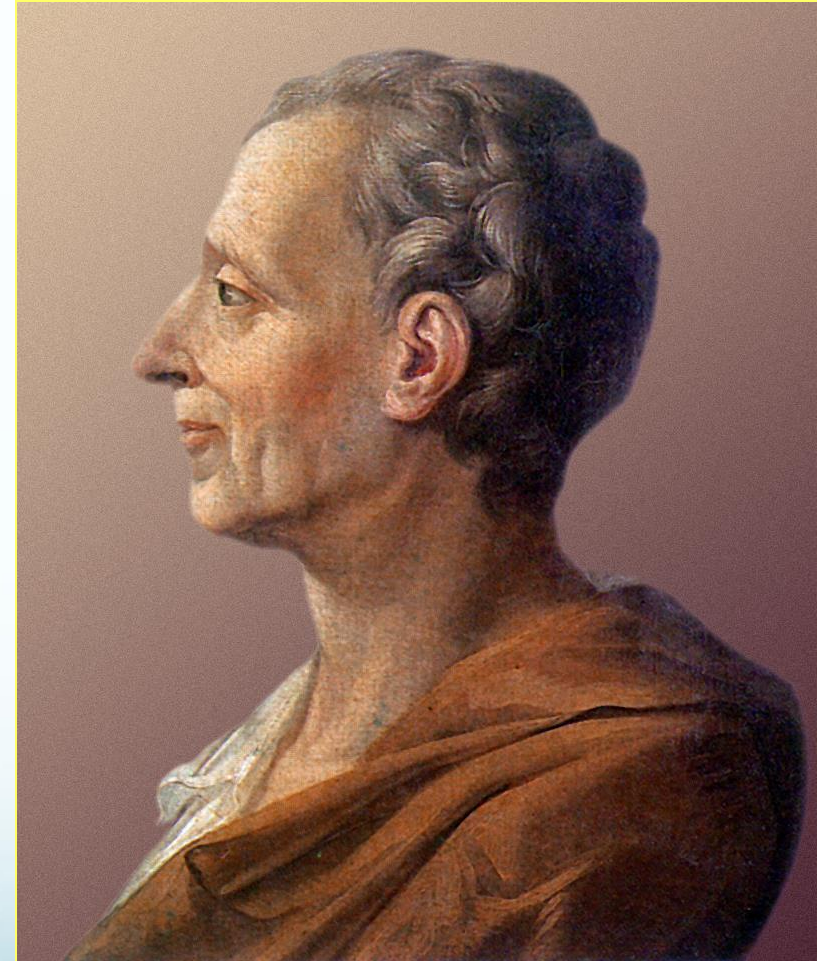


# Baron de Montesquieu

- Born in France in 1689
- Worked as a lawyer
- Very rich, inherited uncle's fortune

• Believed in rights for the Individual

• Famous Quote - "Power should be a check to power." Meaning - there should be a system of checks and balances in govt



# Beliefs of Baron de Montesquieu

- Believed in Division of power among separate branches of govt

- Legislative Branch = Created the laws (ex: the Congress in the USA)

- Judicial Branch = Interpreted the laws (ex: the court system in the USA)

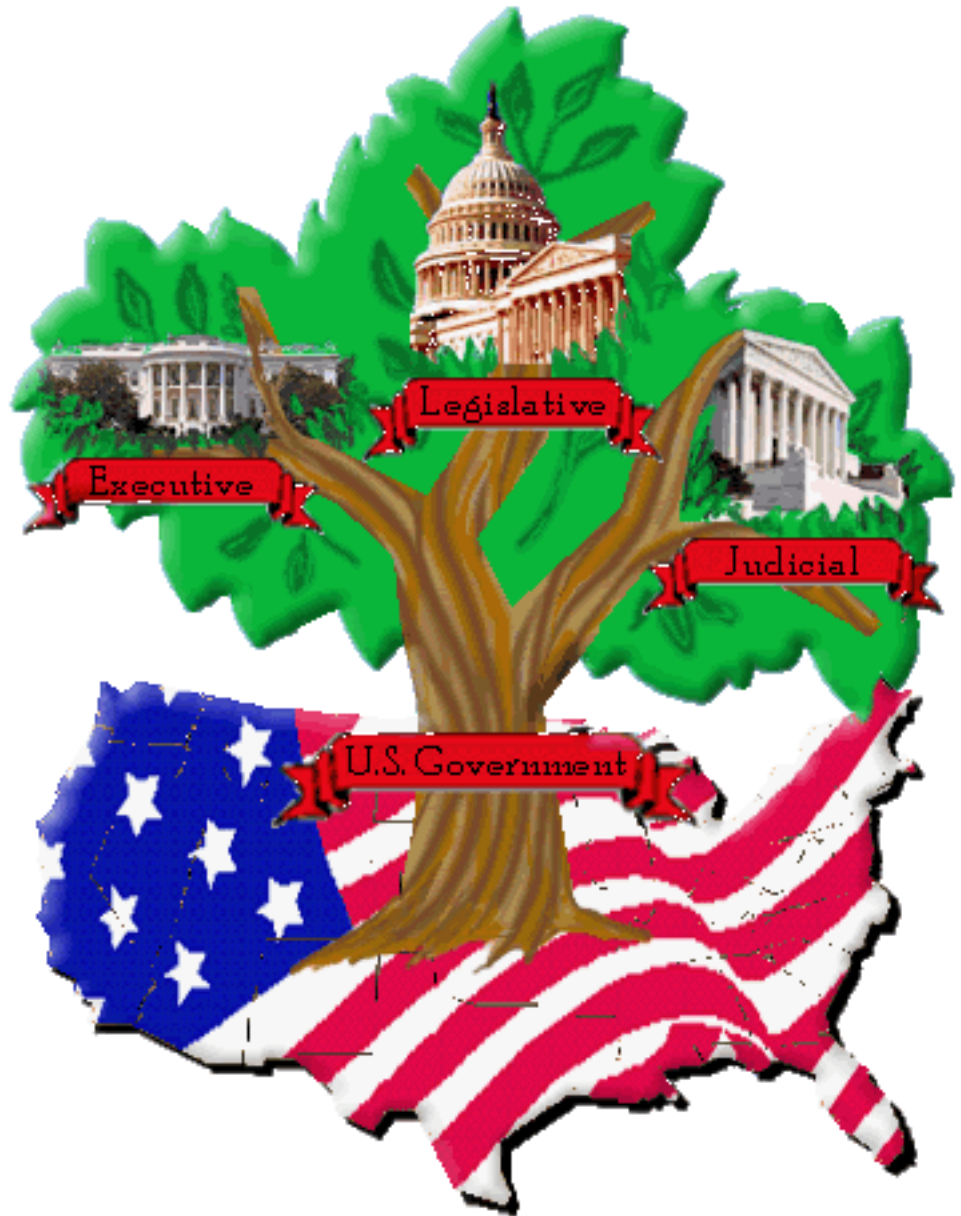
- Executive Branch = Enforced the laws (ex: the President of the USA)

- Believed following the Separation of Powers would prevent despotism (being ruled by a tyrant)



# Montesquieu's ideas

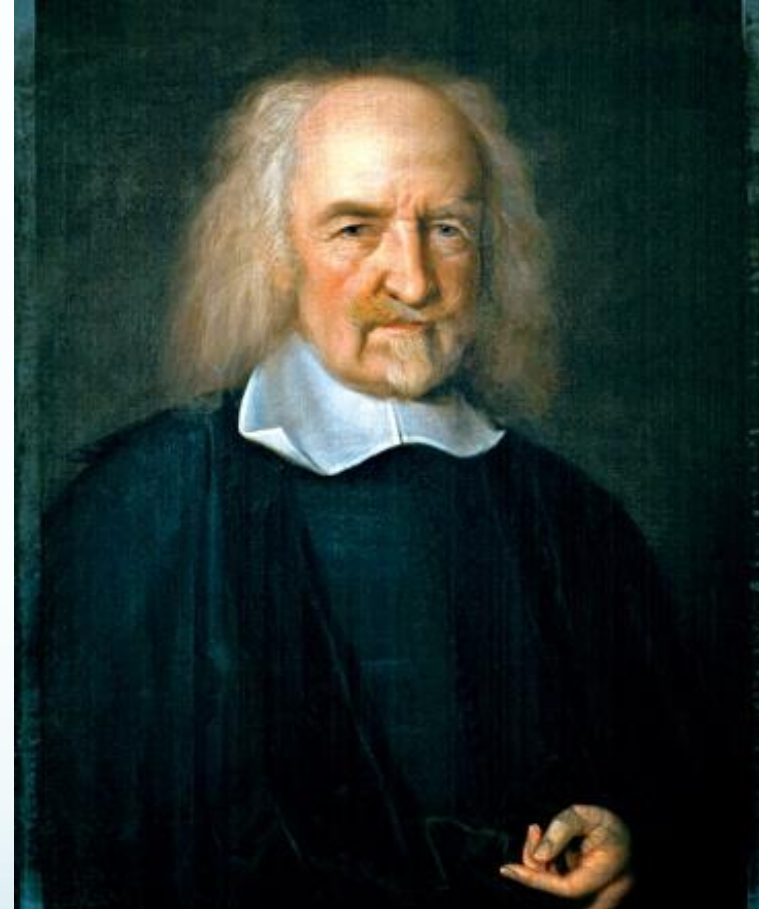
Montesquieu's ideas  
of having three  
separate branches  
of government  
influenced the  
United States  
Constitution, and  
how our  
government works



# Additional Philosophers

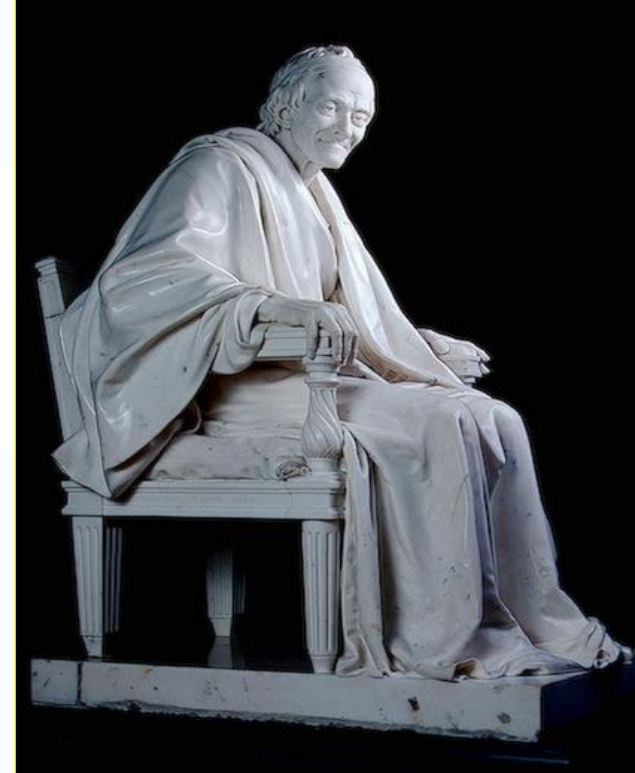
# Thomas Hobbes

- Born in England in 1588
- Believed humans naturally cruel, selfish, and greedy, driven by a desire for power
- Laws and government needed to keep order
- Governments protected people from their own selfishness



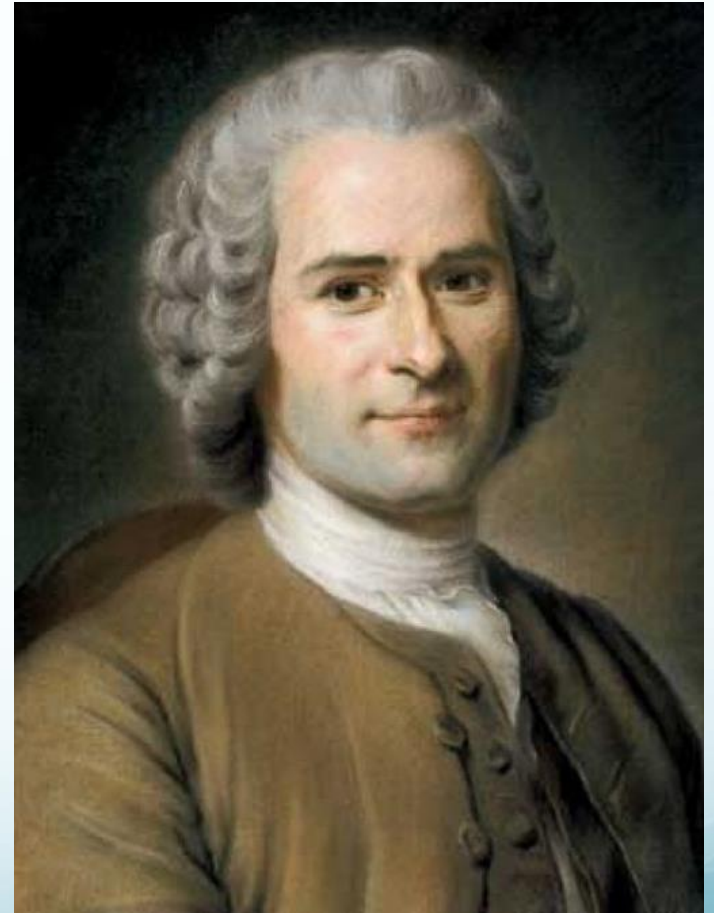
# Voltaire

- Born in 1694 in France
- Believed in individual liberty
- Concerned with freedom of thought and expression
- Believed in religious tolerance (acceptance of different beliefs and customs)
- Spoke out for the rights of Free Speech
  - Famous quote, *"I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it."*



# Rousseau

- Argued democracy best form of government
- Believed in rights for the individual
- All people are created equal
- Govt should defend individual rights and protect good of the whole

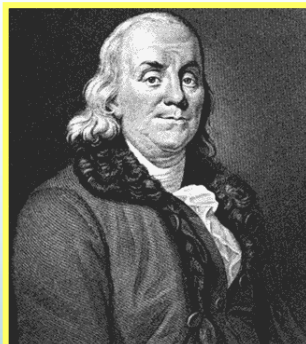


# Impact of the Enlightenment

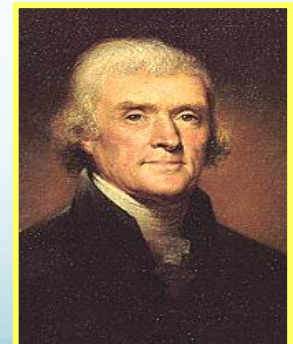
- Major influence of the leaders of American Revolution
- Tackled both social and political issues, effecting several later societies, including America
- Declaration of Independence uses ideas that John Locke had about natural rights and purpose of govt



John Adams  
(1745-1826)



Ben Franklin  
(1706-1790)




Thomas Jefferson  
(1743-1826)

A color-coded map of Europe in 1871, showing the political boundaries of various nations and empires. The map includes labels for countries such as the United Kingdom, France, Prussia, Austria, Russia, and the Ottoman Empire, among others. The map is oriented with North at the top.

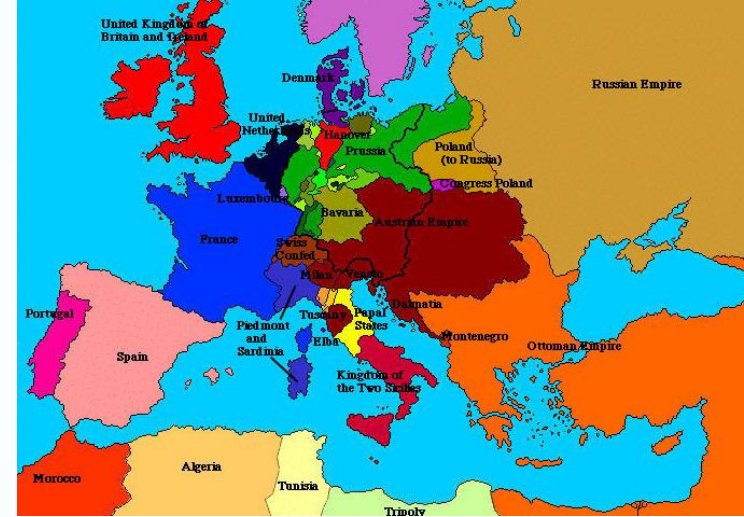
Key labeled regions and countries include:

- United Kingdom of Britain and Ireland
- Denmark
- United Netherlands
- Prussia
- Poland (to Russia)
- Congress Poland
- Austria Empire
- Bavaria
- France
- Luxembourg
- Spain
- Portugal
- Morocco
- Algeria
- Tunisia
- Trieste
- Piedmont and Sardinia
- Tuscany
- Papal States
- Kingdom of the Two Sicilies
- Montenegro
- Ottoman Empire
- Russian Empire

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- A portrait of Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, an elderly man with white hair, wearing a dark blue coat with a red collar and a large silver star-shaped medal on his chest.

# Joseph II of Austria

- Ruled from 1780-1790



- Supported several reforms based on principles of equality and freedom:

- Abolished serfdom
- Allowed freedom of the press
- Allowed freedom of worship
- Outlawed torture and death penalty



- Many changes opposed by Nobles and didn't last past Joseph's death

# Summary

- Write a 10-15 sentence answering the EQ's with details
- Remember the EQ's are:
  - 1. List the famous philosophers from the Enlightenment period and their beliefs
  - 2. Discuss in detail the impact the Enlightenment movement had on various rulers and countries.